

See Also: Harlan, E.R. [Des Moines, IA]

Hovey, Melvin  
[Mondovi, WI]

1936

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SUPT. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Historical, Memorial and Art  
Department of Iowa

Des Moines

EDGAR R. HARLAN, CURATOR

April 28, 1936

American Numismatic Society  
Broadway between 155th and 156th Sts.  
New York City

Gentlemen:

I am sending by express to you, under an insurance of \$50.00, certain objects described in a memorandum, of which I also send you a copy, and ask that you determine if you can, in accordance with that memorandum, and send the information to me to be sent according to the memorandum, to Mrs. Hovey.

If it is outside your province in any respect, and you obtain the opinion of anyone else upon it, make it clear that this material does not belong to me, and I am not authorized to make any charge or expense to Mrs. Hovey.

Sincerely yours,

*ER Harlan*

ERH:AH  
Enc-1

Memorandum

April 28, 1936

Today there came in Breta Hovey and Melvin Hovey, her son, who reside at 110 East Washington Avenue, and left a silver cup with certain inscriptions not known to me, a coin<sup>or</sup> medal with three smaller medals attached thereto, all of which appear to be of foreign coinage. Also a silver belt with four medals or modallions, each different, and a buckle. I have engaged with them to pay the expense on these, under an insurance of \$50.00 and send them to the American Numismatic Society in New York City, and ask that society to give the interpretation of each of the inscriptions on all these, also to give their appraisement on each separate article, and when the information is received by me to give it faithfully to them by letter, at once. I shall inform the society that these are not for sale until, and unless, the appraisement the society puts on them appeals to the owner, and she is advised fully in all the premises.

Curator.

ERH:AH



Take to Robert Eukko, 682 Lexington Ave.  
Near 56<sup>th</sup> St. (dealer)

after the autumn to Miss Avery, Herbert  
Polish Museum. (now in Scandinavia)

(W<sup>m</sup> Hastings)  
230 E. 50<sup>th</sup> St

June 20 1936

Mr. Howard Word:

I have no real historical data concerning the trinkets sent to you by Mr. Harlan except these things were brought to this country by my grandparents when they immigrated from Norway some sixty years ago. The wine cup was used only on special festivals such as ~~weddings~~ weddings etc. The coin trinkets and ~~left~~ <sup>in addition</sup> was worn by the bride at her marriage festival, and it has remained in the family for several generations.

Mr. Harlan informed me that you had an offer of about \$75. for the wine cup which I will accept, and will accept any reasonable offer for the other trinkets. If you have no offer would like to have them returned to me and I will pay the charges for carriage.

Sincerely,  
W. John Boyer



July 16, 1936

Mr. Melvin Hovey,  
Mondovi, Rt. 5,  
Wisc.

Dear Sir:

Mr. Harlan of the Historical, Memorial and Art.  
Dept. of Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa, sent me some time ago  
a cup, shoulder belt and small trinket belonging to you. Why  
he sent them to me I do not know as they are out of my  
line.

I have had no real offers for these but I am hoping to  
see a person shortly who might be interested in them. However,  
he would likely be interested only if he could have some  
historical data about them, that is anything you might know  
concerning them, when brought to this country, etc.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

American Numismatic Society,  
Mr. Harlan of Des Moines  
Iowa sent you a collection of silver  
trinkets including a wine cup  
belt and medallions some time  
ago for your appraisal and to offer  
for sale. You wrote to me later asking  
for historical data which I supplied to  
the best of my ability. I have not  
heard from you since that time so  
I am wondering if you have found a  
sale for the wine cup or the other  
trinkets. If not would like to have  
the collection returned at my expense  
Sincerely,  
W. Nelson Lovejoy.



Sept. 24, 1936

Mr. Melvin Hovey,  
Route 5,  
Mondovi, Wisc.

Dear Sir:

Your letter at hand. As you request the silver cup and the silver belt and the trinket sent back to you, I am herewith having them packed and sent to you, express collect.

The reason I have not sold it is that the person who made the offer for the cup is still in Europe although I expect him back any day, but do not know just when. The person, however, did not absolutely say he would take it. Therefore I may not be able to sell it and I think it just as well I return it.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks  
E